The NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR

Our Three Main National Causes

* Non-disintegration of the Union

* Non-disintegration of National Solidarity

* Perpetuation of Sovereignty

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### Speaker of Pyidaungsu Hluttaw
### Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw and party leave for Lao PDR, SRV

Yangon, 16 June—A Myanmar delegation led by Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw U Khaing Thet Swe left here by air at 4:40 pm today to pay goodwill visits to Lao People’s Democratic Republic and Socialist Republic of Vietnam at the invitation of President of National Assembly Madame Pany Yathotous and President of National Assembly Madame Pany. They were seen off at Yangon International Airport by the Speaker of the Pyidaungsu Hluttaw and the Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw.

Deputy Speaker of Pyithu Hluttaw U Nanda Kyaw Swa, Deputy Speaker of Amyotha Hluttaw U Mya Kyaw, Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe, chairmen, secretaries and members of Amyotha Hluttaw committees, Speaker of Yangon Region Hluttaw U Sein Tin Win, Deputy Speaker U Tin Aung, Laotian Ambassador Mr Nilath Sayarat and Vietnamese Ambassador Mr Chu Cong Phung and officials.

The Speaker of the Amyotha Hluttaw was accompanied by Amyotha Hluttaw representatives who are also Chairman of Nationalities Affairs Committee U Hsawng Paung Nup, member of Public Accounts Committee U Banaw Shaung, members of Hluttaw Rights Committee U Hsan Yel and U Saw Taw Pale, member of Monetary and Revenue Committee U Ha Shein Bwe, member of Economic and Commercial Committee U Huy Win, member of Education, Health and Culture Committee U Hla Thein and officials of the Hluttaw Office.

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### Cash donated to Rakhine State through state government

Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin accepts donation of K 100 million from 12 companies of Sittway wellwishers Muslim merchants’ group.—MNA

A ceremony to donate cash to Rakhine State through state government was held at state Hluttaw Hall in Sittway this morning. It was attended by Lt-Gen Hla Min of the Office of Commanders-in-Chief (Army), Rakhine State Chief Minister U Hla Maung Tin, Commander of Western Command Brig-Gen Ko Ko Naing, Chairman of Pyithu Hluttaw Management Committee U Maung Oo, State Hluttaw Speaker U Hein Lin, Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Phone Swe, state ministers, MPs, donors and townsenders.

The chief minister said stability was restored in Rakhine State, necessary assistances are being rendered to the state, the state government, on behalf of the people of the state, thanked donors for the donations. Pyithu Hluttaw Management Committee Chairman CEC Member of Union Solidarity and Development Party U Maung Oo donated K 30 million, Pyithu Hluttaw Representative of Maungtaw Township U Aung Zaw Win 111 million, Amyotha Hluttaw Representative of Maungtaw Township U Hla Tin 50 million, Pyithu Hluttaw Representative U Shwe Maung K 10 million, 12 companies of Sittway wellwishers Muslim merchants’ group K 100 million, Shwe Myanmar Investment and Trading Company K 10 million, Yoma Arman Company K 5 million and Soe Yadana Gems Company K 1 million through the chief minister.

The Pyithu Hluttaw committee chairman, on behalf of donors, explained purpose of donation and Chairman of state government finance and donation acceptance subcommittee state Finance and Revenue Minister U Soe Aye spoke words of thanks.

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### Union Border Affairs and MID Minister visits villages in northern Maungtaw Tsp

Yangon, 16 June—Union Minister for Union Border Affairs and Myanmar Industrial Development Lt-Gen Thein Hsawng Paung Nup visited nine ethnic and Bengali villages in northern Maungtaw Township in Rakhine State yesterday.

He called on the villagers there for drawing lessons from terrorist activities that took place in southern Maungtaw Township and preventing similar violence in the northern neighbourhood. He also learned needs to maintain prevailing stability between the ethnic villages and the Bengali villages and requirements of regional development from the villagers.

The minister met representatives of ethnic (See page 8)

Union Minister for Border Affairs and for Myanmar Industrial Development Lt-Gen Thein Hsawng Paung Nup visits Bengali villagers in KhamauNgaeik Village.—MNA
On the path to fulfilling public aspirations

As the government in office is elected democratically by the people it is working hard for the happiness and contentment of the people and for fulfilling their requirements, while placing this task always in the forefront.

As the country has been receiving offers from global countries to provide assistance and make investment in it, the ministries and region/state governments have started the work of drawing and adopting strategies and tactics based on national and regional development projects for ministry-wise and occupation-wise reforms covering such sectors as agriculture, industry, education, health, and implementing them area-wise and according to priority list.

In doing so, steps should be taken for implementing effective action plans fulfilling food and shelter needs of the people, creating and making investment in it, the ministries and state governments have started the task always in the forefront.

Moreover, financial aids and supports from the international community and direct investments from sources at home and abroad are other essentials as development tasks require financial sources, capital, technology and human resources as we cannot rely solely on the State’s funds in a democratic nation.

As private sector development is a must for national economic growth which also is the springboard for progress of multiple sectors, the plan to promote independent, institutions and foundations and cooperatives societies has become the mainstream.

Even though the country might be not in a position to fully accept all the multiple offers coming from many global countries and international organizations, it now is definitely on the path to addressing public concerns and fulfilling public aspirations.
Hu’s visit fosters closer political and economic ties with Denmark

Chinese President Hu Jintao (L) meets with Danish Queen Margrethe II in Copenhagen, capital of Denmark, on 15 June, 2012. 

BEIJING, 16 June— The State Food and Drug Administration (SFDA) has promised more efforts to prevent the manufacture and sale of counterfeit drugs following a five-month campaign that led to the uncovering of some 30,000 cases. The cases, which involved some 277.37 million yuan (43.5 million US dollars), were investigated from January to May, and then, 653 suspects were transferred to police departments for further investigation, according to figures revealed on Friday.

“Many counterfeit drug cases featured online advertisements and sales, underground production workshops and sales through postal express. Many occurred in drug stores and medical institutions in rural areas,” said SFDA head Yin Li. According to Yin, future crackdowns will focus on websites advertising fake drugs and selling fake drugs, the management of postal express services and the supervision of market circulation, especially the procurement of medicine in rural stores and health centres. 

Also on Friday, the SFDA issued a circular urging tightened supervision over food served in rural school cafeterias and breakfast tins. “The overall safety situation of our country’s catering services in rural areas is good. However, most rural cafeterias are scattered and small in size, which poses great difficulties for supervision,” said the circular. The SFDA urged tightened approval procedures for rural restaurants. Local food and drug departments have been ordered to launch more frequent inspections in rural school cafeterias and restaurants.

UN chief calls for respect, protection for elders

UNITED NATIONS, 16 June— UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Friday highlighted the growing problem of elder abuse, calling for better strategies and stronger laws to protect the rights and dignity of older persons worldwide. “Respect for elders is an integral part of many societies. As people live longer, and as we strive for sustainable and inclusive development, it is time to revive and expand our appreciation for those who have advanced in years,” Ban said in his message for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, a new observance that is observed annually on 15 June.

COPENHAGEN, 16 June— Visiting Chinese President Hu Jintao undertook a number of official engagements here on Friday during his first state visit to Denmark. The visit, the first by a Chinese head of state since the two countries established diplomatic ties 62 years ago, served to further advance the comprehensive strategic partnership between the two countries. It has also brought about fresh opportunities for cooperation, with a raft of trade deals being signed here between enterprises of the two countries. On Friday, Hu and his wife Liu Yongqing paid a courtesy call to Denmark’s Queen Margrethe II and her husband Prince Consort Henrik at Amalienborg Castle, the Queen’s official residence. During the meeting, Hu and the Danish royal couple discussed bilateral relations, agreeing to advance their comprehensive strategic partnership to a higher level. Speaking of the long history of friendly exchanges enjoyed by the two peoples, Hu said the establishment of the comprehensive strategic partnership in 2008 had pushed bilateral relations to a new stage. China, he said, attaches great importance to its ties with Denmark and is ready to expand cooperation and friendship on the royal yacht. During the boat trip, Hu was briefed by Danish officials about Copenhagen city’s system for cleaning its wastewater and sewage. 

WASHINGTON, 16 June— Commander of US Pacific Command Samuel Locklear pledged on Friday to continue to strengthen the US-China military ties.

HOUSTON, 16 June— The United States welcomes other countries to engage in the peaceful exploration of space, a NASA spokesperson said on Friday while commenting on China’s imminent launch of its Shenzhou-9 manned spacecraft. “The United States has been engaged in the peaceful exploration of space for more than 50 years, and we welcome those other nations that wish to join this endeavor,” NASA spokesperson Allard Beutel told Xinhua in an email interview. Beutel’s remarks came on the eve of China’s planned launch of its Shenzhou-9 manned spacecraft on Saturday to perform the country’s first manned space docking mission and send its first female astronaut Liu Yang into space. Beutel said female astronauts can play an equally important role in space exploration.

“NASA astronaut corps includes both female and male astronauts who train side-by-side and have identical opportunities to work in space,” Beutel said. “In fact, the current head of our astronaut corps is a woman, Dr Peggy Whitson.” Whitson, Beutel said, is a veteran astronaut who holds the American record for the longest duration in space. “More than two decades, for a total of 665 days,” she said. “She is currently acknowledged as one of the most experienced astronauts of the international space station.”

Visitors tour a Taipie-style temple fair in southeast China’s Fujian Province, on 15 June, 2012. The temple fair is part of the fourth Straits Forum, which will be held in Xiamen from June 16 to 22. Visitors will have access to cuisines, specialties and creative products from Taipie at the temple fair. 

China vows intensified crackdown on fake drugs

TEHRAN, 16 June — The Head of Iran’s Passive Defence Organization said on Friday that Iranian experts are preparing a strategic cyber defence plan to help the country counter cyber attacks, the semi-official Mehr news agency reported on Friday. “In the previous (Iranian calendar) year (which ended on 19 March), the country’s cyber command was established, and the formulation of the cyber defence strategy is now underway,” Golam-Reza Jalali said on Thursday.

“The important point is that we develop mechanisms for cyber defence in a way that we will be able to defend the country against new viruses,” Jalali was quoted as saying. Over the past few years Iran had been the target of numerous cyber attacks, which had been carried out to disrupt the country’s industrial systems, but Iranian experts had been able to successfully monitor and counter the threats, he added. The official said that the focus of the cyber command’s activities was on cyber defence and Iran had no plan to launch cyber attacks on other countries. 

In May, Iran’s media reported that Iranian cyber experts detected and contained a complicated Israeli spy virus. 

IUHNA

NASA welcomes Chinese manned space mission

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RUHZAINIHO

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon attends a training in a capsule simulating the re-entry one of the Shenzhou-9 spacecraft. They will be carried by the Shenzhou-9 spacecraft for China’s first manned space docking mission with the orbiting Tiangong-1 space lab module. -- Xinhua

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A modern civilization can only live up to that name if it preserves the tradition of honoring, respecting and protecting society’s elders,” he added. According to the UN World Health Organization (WHO), elder abuse is a single or repeated act or lack of appropriate action, occurring within any relationship where there is an expectation of trust, which causes harm or distress to an older person. This type of violence constitutes a violation of human rights and includes physical, sexual, psychological, emotional, financial and material abuse; abandonment; neglect; and serious loss of dignity and respect.

The WHO estimates that between four and six percent of older persons worldwide have suffered from some form of elder abuse. Emerging research also suggests that abuse, neglect and violence against older persons, both at home and in institutions, are much more prevalent than currently acknowledged.

NATIONAL COLOR  Sunday, 17 June, 2012
United Nations Secretary-General’s message on World Day to Combat Desertification

17 June, 2011

“Healthy soil sustains your life: Let’s go land degradation neutral. Let’s go to work on World Day to Combat Desertification. Fifty years on from the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. Global efforts to halt and reverse land degradation are integral to creating the future we want. Sustainable land use is a prerequisite for lifting billions from poverty, enabling food and nutrition security, and safeguarding water supplies. It is a cornerstone of sustainable development.

The people who live in the world’s arid lands, which occupy more than 40 per cent of our planet’s land area, are among the poorest and most vulnerable to hunger. We will not achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 without preserving the soils on which their subsistence depends.

Nor will we be able to guarantee our fresh water resources, 70 per cent of which are already used for agriculture. By 2030 the demand for water is projected to rise by 35 per cent. Unless we change our land-use practices, we face the prospect of diminishing and inadequate water supplies, as well as more frequent and intense droughts.

Further, by 2050, we will need sufficient productive land to feed an estimated 9 billion people with per capita consumption levels greater than those of today. This will be impossible if agriculture continues at its current pace — an annual loss of 75 billion tons. Importantly, land use decisions need to be made, as well as critical investments ranging from extension services for small farmers to the latest technology to support environmentally sustainable mass food production.

Rio+20 is our opportunity to showcase the many smart and effective land management systems and options that exist or are in the pipeline. Twenty years on from the adoption of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, let us ensure that a commitment to sustainable land management features prominently in the official outcome at Rio and in the wider mobilization for sustainability that will also be part of Rio’s legacy. Without healthy soil, life on Earth is unsustainable.”

Japanese restrict atomic exposure testing

Japan’s former Prime Minister Naoto Kan appears as witness at a commission meeting of the National Diet of Japan Fukushima Nuclear Accident Independent Investigation Commission (ANIC) in Tokyo, Japan, on 28 May, 2012. "Ivanter

Telescope to hunt black holes reaches orbit

A combination photo shows a launch sequence of NASA’s Nuclear Spectroscopic Telescope Array (NuSTAR), being launched from the carrier “Stargazer”, into the morning skies over the central Pacific (Reuters/Handout EDIT) on 13 June, 2012, marking the beginning its mission to unveil secrets of baried black holes and other exotic objects. —Reuters

New MacBook Pro called unrepairable

SAPA) June, 16—The newest MacBook Pro with Retina display merits a 1 on a 10-point repair scale and is nearly impossible to fix or upgrade, a popular tech Web site says.

Electronics development Web site iFixit found the $2,799 laptop “virtually non-upgradable,” eWeek.com reported on Wednesday. Tearing down the next-generation MacBook, the iFixit team said they found it to be the least repairable or upgradable laptop they have ever taken apart.

The laptop’s RAM is soldered to the logic board, the solid-state drive isn’t upgradable, the lithium-polymer battery is glued rather than screwed into the case and even the screws that hold the unit together are a proprietary design requiring a special screwdriver, they said. “Apple has packed all the things we hate into one beautiful little package,” iFixit’s Kyle Wiens wrote in a blog post. “Laptops are expensive. It’s not our job to figure out how to repair things that go wrong, as well as upgrade their own hardware to keep it relevant as new technologies roll out,” Wiens wrote.

“On top of being glued together, the new MacBook Pro is virtually non-upgradable — making it the first MacBook Pro that will be unable to adapt to future advances in memory and storage technology.” —Internet

Living fossil’ fish still evolving

Bochum, 16June—A fish dubbed a “living fossil” that hasn’t changed fundamentally for 400 million years is still able to genetically adapt to its environment, researchers say.

While scientists have confirmed that coelacanths, whose morphology has not significantly changed since the Devonian age, are in fact evolving slowly, genetic studies from specimens of bygone times should be put into perspective.

Coelacanths were considered extinct until a live specimen was hauled aboard a fishing boat in 1938. Since then, more than 60 specimens have been collected from the waters off East Africa. The study of modern specimens confirmed that coelacanths, whose morphology has not significantly changed since the Devonian age, are in fact evolving slowly, genetic studies from specimens of bygone times should be put into perspective.

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…“On the Ruhr-University Bochum in Germany, said… "The image of the coelacanth as a passive relic of bygone times should be put into perspective." …Coelacanths were considered extinct until a live specimen was hauled aboard a fishing boat in 1938. Since then, more than 60 specimens have been collected from the waters off East Africa. The study of modern specimens confirmed that coelacanths, whose morphology has not significantly changed since the Devonian age, are in fact evolving slowly, genetic studies from specimens of bygone times should be put into perspective. ...
Singh, Obama discuss euro crisis risks ahead of G20 summit

**Microsoft to buy Yammer for more than $1 bln — WSJ**

**Vein grown from stem cells saves 10-year-old girl**

**Wall St ends higher on possible central bank action news**

**Health Tip: Secondhand smoke is dangerous**

**OPEC to maintain output level of crude oil**

**Facebook to file motion, discuss Nasdaq role in IPO**

**NEW YORK, 16 June—** US stocks rose on Thursday after news major central banks are preparing coordinated action if the results of Greek elections this weekend generate turmoil in financial markets.

Based on the latest available data, the Dow Jones industrial average was up 156.51 points, or 1.25 percent, at 12,652.89. The Standard & Poor’s 500 Index was up 14.27 points, or 1.09 percent, at 1,329.15. The Nasdaq Composite Index was up 17.72 points, or 0.63 percent, at 2,836.33.

**NEW YORK, 16 June—** Facebook (FB) is set to file a motion to consolidate all the shareholder lawsuits against the social network site, and is expected to place some blame on the Nasdaq for its botched IPO when it flies the motion, the New York Times reported on Thursday.

**NEW YORK, 16 June—** Microsoft Corp has agreed to sell itself to Microsoft Corp for more than $1 billion, the Wall Street Journal reported, as Friday, will provide some perspective on Nasdaq’s role on listing day and the effect the exchange’s action had on the stock’s trading activity, the paper said, citing a person with knowledge of the matter.

**LONDON, 16 June—** Doctors in Sweden have replaced a vital blocked blood vessel in a 10-year-old girl using the first vein grown in a lab from a patient’s own stem cells. The successful transplant operation, reported online in The Lancet medical journal on Thursday, marks a further advance in the search for ways to make new body parts.

It could open the door to stem-cell-based grafts for heart bypass and dialysis patients who lack suitable blood vessels for replacement surgery, and the Swedish team said it is now working with an undisclosed company to commercialize the process.

“I’m very optimistic that in the near future we will be able to get both arteries and veins transplanted on a large scale,” said Suchitra Srinivasan-Holgersson, professor of transplantation biology at the University of Gothenburg, and a member of the team that performed the operation in March 2011. The advantage of using tissue grown from a patient’s own cells is that there is no risk of organ rejection and hence no need for lifelong immunosuppressive drugs.

Four years ago, a 30-year-old woman received the world’s first transplant of a tailor-made windpipe, grown in a similar way by seeding a stripped-down donor possible with human stem cells. Other such trachea operations have followed since. The latest case involved a young girl with an obstructed hepatic portal vein, which drains blood from the intestines and spleen to the liver. Its blockage can be fatal.

The team from the University of Gothenburg took a 9 cm (3.5 inch) section of groin vein from a deceased donor and removed all the living cells, leaving just a protein scaffold tube. Stem cells extracted from the girl’s bone marrow were then injected onto the tube and two weeks later the graft was implanted. The new blood vessel immediately restored normal blood flow, the doctors said, although after a year it narrowed and a second stem cell-based graft was needed.

**NEW YORK, 16 June—** US President Barack Obama and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh agreed on Thursday on the need to buffer the global economy against risks from the European debt crisis, the White House said.

In a readout of their telephone call before the G20 meeting in Mexico next week, the White House said the two leaders discussed “the importance of steps to strengthen the resilience of the global economy” with a focus on steps to lift growth. Leaders of the Group of 20 leading industrial nations will meet in Los Cabos, Mexico on 18-19 June. Their conversations will be dominated by the European debt crisis.

Authorities in the world’s major economies are preparing for a possible market storm or public panic after should leftists win the Greek elections this weekend and cast doubt on the nation’s future in the euro zone.

Officials from the G20 nations said that central banks were ready to take steps to stabilize financial markets by providing liquidity and preventing credit squeeze after Sunday’s election.

**NEW YORK, 16 June—** There’s no safe amount of exposure to secondhand smoke, which can cause lung and heart problems among people who don’t smoke.

Secondhand smoke poses these increased risks to infants and children:

- **Worsening asthma symptoms.**
- **Coughing and wheezing.**
- **More frequent ear infections.**
- **Worsening asthma symptoms.**
- **Being sick more frequently than kids who aren’t exposed to secondhand smoke.**

**WASHINGTON, 16 June—** US President Barack Obama and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh—

**A television reporter talks about the Facebook stock at the NASDAQ MarketSite in New York’s Times Square on 22 May, 2012. —REUTERS**

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**INTERNET**

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Climber dies after 1,000-foot fall on Mount Hood

OREGON, City, 16 June — A man climbing alone who died on early Thursday after falling about 1,000 feet on the south side of Mount Hood was an experienced mountaineer from Polk County, Oregon, Sheriff’s officers said. Mark Cartier, 56, fell from close to the 10,000-foot level, landing on the west side of an area known as the Hogback near Crater Rock, Sgt Adam Phillips said.

Sgt Adam Phillips said.

People walk away from the medical examiners truck near the maintenance buildings just below Timberline Lodge, where the body of climber Mark Cartier, who fell to his death in the upper elevations of Mount Hood, Ore, was taken, on 14 June, 2012. — Internet

Japanese police detain final fugitive in Tokyo gas attack

The police will carry out investigations into Takahashi’s role in the cases. His life on the run will also be probed so as to understand how he managed to lead such a life with a large sum of money. Takahashi’s detention followed the arrest of Naoko Kikuchi, another fugitive wanted allegedly for her role in the gas attack, earlier this month.

The two were reported to have been living together in an apartment in Kawasaki, south of Tokyo, from 2001 to around 2016. Takahashi changed his name and worked for a construction company in his years on the run.

He was caught by a security camera when he tried to withdraw money from a bank after learning Kikuchi’s whereabouts.

Thousands of police had been fanned out in the Japanese capital since last week to hunt down the suspect. Police found Takahashi at a comic café after receiving a tip-off. Aum Shinrikyo cult was renamed as Aleph following the cult’s bankruptcy.

About 200 members of the cult have been convicted of the gas attack and other crimes. Thirteen, including Shoko Asahara, the chief culprit of the deadly attacks and founder of the cult, are on death row.

TV crew missing on Philippine kidnap island

File photo shows heavily armed police on patrol in downtown Jolo, a remote Philippine island notorious for Islamist militants and kidnappings.— Internet

48 killed in al-Qaeda clashes with Yemen army

ZINJIBAR, 16 June — At least 48 people, including 40 militiamen, were killed in clashes in Yemen’s southern province of Abyan where al-Qaeda and the army are battling for control, state media said.

“Americans or other foreigners come here it is natural for us to offer them security…. We all know that we still have a kidnapping problem here,” he said.

Japanese police detain final fugitive in Tokyo gas attack

Tokyo, 16 June — Police in Tokyo detained the final fugitive behind a deadly sarin gas attack on Tokyo’s subway about 17 years ago, local media reported on Friday.

Katsuhide Kikuchi, 54, has been on Japan’s most wanted list for his suspected involvement in the Aum Shinrikyo cult’s lethal attack that killed 13 people and injured more than 6,000 others in downtown Tokyo.

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He was caught by a security camera when he tried to withdraw money from a bank after learning Kikuchi’s whereabouts.

Thousands of police had been fanned out in the Japanese capital since last week to hunt down the suspect. Police found Takahashi at a comic café after receiving a tip-off. Aum Shinrikyo cult was renamed as Aleph following the cult’s bankruptcy.

About 200 members of the cult have been convicted of the gas attack and other crimes. Thirteen, including Shoko Asahara, the chief culprit of the deadly attacks and founder of the cult, are on death row.

TV crew missing on Philippine kidnap island

File photo shows heavily armed police on patrol in downtown Jolo, a remote Philippine island notorious for Islamist militants and kidnappings.— Internet

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We often refer to media collectively as newspaper, journal, magazine, radio, television and other related persons. As the word “car” is transmigrated in the Myanmar language, we Myanmars do the same with the word “media”. Media covers individuals, jobs and subjects which act as a source in mass communications. Once, media only referred to press and telecasts. The advancement of technology gives a room for the new media. Today’s media includes print media, broadcasting and the new media.

News means information about unusual and daily happenings we have yet to be informed of, defines Media Reference Book by Guardian U Sein Win which also says worthiness of news for particular region is considered based on background history and causes of the events. Natural and social phenomena of today’s world with the population of over 7,000,000 become daily news. Thanks to technology, news could be shared to every corner of the world in the blink of an eye through the new media, shifting from the situation that requires us to wait for the printing of newspaper, publications and journals and for the airing of radio and television.

As we used to call it the age of media, its role becomes crucial. As news spreads through various media, the public confidence in them becomes crucial as well. Professional ethics have to be adhered to by all related individuals in the media industry become vitally important. Abridged Myanmar Dictionary defines ethics as “behaviours, manners, practices or principles that should be abode by”. In regard to journalism ethics, there are 11 codes of conduct set by Myanmar Journalism Council in 1961. Furthermore, there are also codes of practice based on the traditional journalism ethics, the Media Reference Book says.

But, I am not going to define media, news and ethics in this article. As this item of vocabulary is important for my commentary following hereafter, I have to explain it first. The purpose of this article is to draw lessons from media coverage of recent unrests in Rakhine State and how the government handled the situation and provided assistance to the victims.

Reviewing the above-mentioned incident that took place from 28 May to 13 June, it is found that we witnessed a series of events: mob violence, subsequent anarchic crimes, formation of investigation committee to prosecute offenders, spread of mob violence to each area of the state, issuance of orders to protect the public in each region, making announcements by various religious organizations to contain the situation, the President’s plea to the public for helping the government control the situation based on consciousness of incidents in Rakhine State, conscience and kindness, declaration of the state of emergency in Rakhine State, legal actions taken against those willing to carry out terrorist activities that could undermine the stability of the state, opening of rescue camps to provide aids to the victims, invitation for donations of cash and kind to the victims, continuation of security measures to restore the stability.

What is different from the past was the government informed the series of incidents to the public through State-run newspapers and radio and television as well in real time. It was found that it tried to publish real-time accurate and correct report to the people with highest speed. It has done possibly as it could with the ethics of journalists who are obliged to make the entire public know the accurate and correct phenomena and incidents in shortest time while maintaining fair judgement to prevent the escalation of incidents and growth of doubts and animosity and avoid public dismay.

However, news reporting and facts and photos about the incidents of online media and some broadcast and print media were much to our dismay. Not even a vague sense of accountability and rationality for their news they showed under the cover of press freedom nor did they observe the most fundamental principle of journalism ethics. What was called emotionally biased news reporting was found in their news but not presentation from various angles of views. There is a question on their set of values about for whose interests should be at the fore if there is conflict between personal and national interests. It can be concluded through thorough assessment of facts and photos of such media that these could only lead to hatred, anarchy, vengeance and other stimulations among the public. These might not only deter the democratization process and national development undertakings of the people and the government but result in losses and damages.

Under such circumstances, the regional chief minister met the media in Yangon, the major seat of press, with a view to preventing every possible scenario. The region chief minister called on them to adhere to print media law enacted by the government and to abide by prescriptions of the constitution and warned against failure to do so. Likewise, the Information Ministry called for adherence to 1962 Printers and Publishers Law in covering incidents in Rakhine State. So, the media, the Fourth Estate needs to follow the warnings of the authorities concerned as preventive measures. They are also obliged to act with journalism ethics. It would be of pleasure to both the government and the people should they join hands in national interests.

Nowadays, the government could restore peace and stability having controlled unrest and violence. It is also maintaining the momentum of national development undertakings moving forward to new democratic nation. At such a time, the media is urged to play its role by monitoring the legislative, judicial and executive pillars and win the trust of the public, is getting more and more important. So, media businesses and personalities under the title of the Fourth Estate are urged to shape their future pillar in harmony with freedom and accountability, freedom and rationality in compliance with the enacted laws and journalism ethics serving the interests of the nation.

Translation: HKA•TTK

Cash donated for Publishing township magazine

YANGON, 16 June—A ceremony to top up signboard of Pabedan Townships Writers Association was held in conjunction with the cash donation ceremony for publishing the township magazine at its office at 129/131 on 32nd middle block on 13 June. President of Myanmar Hockey Federation member of Yangon City Development Committee U Khin Zaw Win donated K 50,000, Vice-President U Kyaw Kyaw Hlaing of Smart Group of Companies and CEO U Saw Lu Lhaw of Skyyings K 100,000 each, Patron of Pabedan Townships Writers Association Dr Dow Tin Nwe Oo (Hmancho) K 100,000, Vice-Chairman U Yan Gyi Aung (Wakte), etc.

Chairman of the association Reporter Than Swe (Pabedan) handed over the cash donations to Patrons of the association Mathi Sayar U Aung Thadung and Dr Khin Maung Nyo.—Myanmar Alin

District News

Yekyi, 14 June—Yekyi Township Development Affairs Committee of Pathein District presented school uniforms to 47 students at the office of the Township DAC on 6 June. Executive Director U Khin Maung Than of Yekyi Township Development Committee U Khin Maung Than gave one set of school uniform each to 47 students of vendors. Min Zaw Oo (Yekyi)

Cash donated for Publishing township magazine

THANBYUZAYAT, 16 June—The rainy season tree growing ceremony was held in the compound of Thanbyuzayat Basic Education High School No. 1 on 16 June.

Chairman of the Association U Aye Cho of Mawlamyine-Thaton District Forest Department, Thanbyuzayat Township Administrator U Ye Kyaw Kaing and departmental personnel. Head of Township Forest Department U Po Cho and staff, Township Education Officer Daw Shwe Mi, teachers, students, Chairperson of Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association Daw Khin Hiar Tin and social organization members and local people participated in the tree growing ceremony.

Licences issued to motorcyclists without licences in Kalay

KALAY, 14 June—Licences were issued to motorcyclists without licences by designating fee through one stop service at the office of Directorate of Road Administration in Kalay District in Saging Region as of 5 June.

Licences were issued to motorcyclists without licences by designating fee through one stop service at the office of Directorate of Road Administration in Kalay District in Saging Region as of 5 June.

The association urges old and new generation members of Climbymaung Hiking and Mountaineering Federation and the universities to attend the ceremony, whether they get

Township Forest

Licences issued to motorcyclists without licences in Kalay
Local medical battalion provides health care to people

Nav Pyi Taw, 16 June—Servicemen of local medical battalion of Sittway provided health care services to those present at the refugee camps in Sittway yesterday morning and afternoon.

At 9.30 am, the medical servicemen gave health care to local national races at the refugee camp in Mahazaya Theindi Adiekhtian Monastery and members of the Sangha at Adiekhtian and its surrounding monasteries. After that, they gave educative talks on prevention against illness and diarrhoea and distributed health knowledge pamphlets. At the refugee camp at Hsutaungpyae Pariyatti Monastery, they also gave health care services to local people.—MNA

Medical servicemen providing health care to patients at refugee camps in Sittway.

Navigating through the history of the world, we find that the majority of wars have started due to religious or racial differences. Peace agreements have been reached with 10 out of 11 remaining armed groups as peace talks continue, he said. As setting each other’s houses on fire in Rakhine State is not appropriate, the government is trying to prevent such illegal acts. Lawlessness is unacceptable, he said. The government will bring offenders to justice and restore stability as soon as possible, he said. If the violence escalates, more innocent people will be victimized, he said. He promised all-round regional development if the stability prevails. He assumed the responsibility to do so and expressed his wish to. He called for nurturing positive attitudes. The representatives of the villages said there are difficulties as it is school opening season, thanked the minister for his presence and promised to maintain stability in their area. The Union minister and party inspected construction of roads of the border area, border gate and outposts in the evening. The Union minister and party inspected construction of roads of the border area, border gate and outposts in the evening. The Union minister and party inspected construction of roads of the border area, border gate and outposts in the evening. The Union minister and party inspected construction of roads of the border area, border gate and outposts in the evening. The Union minister and party inspected construction of roads of the border area, border gate and outposts in the evening. The Union minister and party inspected construction of roads of the border area, border gate and outposts in the evening. The Union minister and party inspected construction of roads of the border area, border gate and outposts in the evening.
Norms of print media law being drafted...
(from page 16)
interests of the country and the people while working together with the people for nation building tasks. Regarding the forth estate or the media, the union minister quoted the speech of President Thein Sein delivered on 31 March, 2011, as saying that the role of the fourth estate of the media is important and it is necessary to inform the people about facts that they should know through the media and the media should also recognize constructive advices. This reflects the stance of the government on the media, he said.

The union minister reiterated the five points that should be obeyed by the writers and journalists: (1) to be free from bias, (2) approaching a story from different angles so that the people can view or decide correctly, (3) to combine the freedom and responsibility, freedom and rationality when journalists write reportage. As a fourth point, he expressed his view that the fourth estate should lead the way to democracy in any interests of the country and people though they have freedom of opinions and freedom of diversities in the democratic era. As a fifth point, the union minister urged the media to base on the national cause as a common ground. The points should be abide by the media to become the genuine fourth estate for a democratic nation.

Every citizen has the right to express and publish his beliefs and opinions if not violated the laws enacted for security of the State, rule of law and community peace and tranquility and in consideration of morality of the people, according to the Sub-paragraph (a) of Section 354 of the constitution of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. In other words, journalists would have the freedom of expression. Journalists would have to strictly adhere to codes of journalism ethics and regulations in practicing expression freedom. They would also have to practice it observing the journalism ethics with rationality and awareness. Through this, they would be able to stand as accountable and reliable journalists on which the people, the fifth pillar rely on and become the genuine Fourth Estate which could monitor the three pillars of the State.

The Union Minister with regard to media coverage of recent incidents in Rakhine State, said his ministry published the incidents in Rakhine State and government's measures and assistance through State-run television and newspapers keeping in contact with ministries concerned, security forces and regional authorities. In so doing, it had to make fair judgment about the cases and act with uprightness so as to inform the real situation from beginning to end to the people, prevent escalation of the incidents, growth of doubts and animosity among the public and avoid public dismay. The Union Minister made a point of such action as the practical observance of his own view of five norms for the media and other international journalism ethics. However, it could be found that news reporting of some online media had no respect to journalism ethics but were focused on news monopolization, fame and profits with possibility of harming the journalism ethics arousing rage, animosity and vengeance among the public. So, the Yangon Region chief minister had to warn the media to adhere to regulations and ethics as part of preventive measures.

Scrublization and Registration Department under the Information Ministry has also to make warning and take actions under the law. The Union Minister then his thanks to and pride for the local media agencies who now published news and photos of the incidents in Rakhine State in compliance with journalism ethics joining hands for national interests. He said he hoped other online media would consider their actions in the interests of the nation and its people.

The Union Minister then explained the ministry’s measures for updating the print media sector. The Union Minister said that the norms of print media law being drafted was no lower than that of international ones and was not intended for deterring or forbidding print media or press freedom but for the emergence of dignified and qualified genuine Fourth Estate. The final coordination was made with the Attorney-General’s Office for the draft and it would be submitted to the Union government for its approval. As reforms had been made in literary scrutiny policies phase by phase, it was now in the fourth phase. Eight out of the 10 literary genres in print media and all genres of novels had been allowed to publish freely with prior submission for scrutiny. The grip would be released further. But, it should be aware that there would not be effects without causes.

The ministry was also arranging for establishment of hard-core Media Council. The Union Minister said he had asked pearls of wisdom from present literary organizations and would-be literary organizations for formation of the hard-core Media Council and appropriate nominees to the organizations.

Now, Myanmar Writers Association could successfully hold its first conference after reformed with democratic practices. The Union Minister said he hoped that all the members of the association which would be constituted with the writers, the major force of the literary world, would join hands for sustainability of the association, to be able to stand tall as a dignified association in the literary world, to serve the interests of writers, the literary world, and the nation and its people and to become the reliable association which won the public trust.

In conclusion, Myanmar Writers Association which has been restructured to be commensurate with the new era and soul serve the country, people, the literary world and the men of letters based on the nationalist fervor as it preserves legacy and fine traditions of Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association, he said.

The Union minister urged the association to try to become genuine, competent and ethical fourth estate and check and act balance for three other estates and the people.

The association is urged to try at its best to do its bits with the might in building the democratic nation in accord with journalism ethics and five principles of the Information Ministry.

He also called on the association for carrying out processes systematically with firm policy and proper attitude to emerge as the literary organization reliable by the people.

The Union minister then cordially greeted those present at the ceremony.

Rioters arrested in Maungtaw Tsp

Nav Pt Taw, 16 June—Thanks to the concerted efforts of the Rakhine State government, the military, Myanmar Police Force and local people for the regional security, peace could prevail in entire Rakhine State since 13 June. Members of security forces in cooperation with local people were patrolling day and night to maintain the stability.

On 15 June morning at Chienkhali Village of Maungtaw Township, the patrol on seeing around 30 rioters who gathered holding swords and sticks tried to disperse them who fled into different directions.

The security forces pursued them and arrested 22 rioters with one of them who used a homemade whistle, seven 0.5 inch sharpen iron rods, one ft long dagger, 10thtreekwod sticks, two ft long sharpen iron rods. Those arrested would be transferred to the local police station for further actions under the law.—MNA

Local Tatmadawmen put out arson fire in Kyauktaw Tsp

Nav Pt Taw, 16 June—Some fighting set ablaze 12 houses in Apaukwa village in Kyauktaw Township in Rakhine State which accommodate no people yesterday noon. Acting on tip-off that some rioters had committed arson attacks in the houses in the outer edge of the village, security forces arrived at the scene in time and put out the fire. One out of 200 homes caught fire.

The local authorities, security forces and people who do not want violence are trying to capture the attack-and-fire-raters soon as possible. MNA

Olympic Day Golf Tourney on 22 June


The tournament will be classified as 0-18 single handicap event and singles senior class (0-24 handicap for above 55 years old).

Those wishing to take part in the tournament mat dial 861702, 89203767 and 997313047 and Myanmar Golf Club, not later than 3 pm on 20 June.—MNA

YANGON, 16 June—Opening of the Chamyae Yeikha home for mothers of the Veteran Film Artistes was held at the home in Aungnya Thiri Ward in Thanlyin Township this morning.

Region Minister for Finance and Revenue Daw San San Nwe, Region Minister for Social Affairs Dr Myint Thein, Chairman U Kyaw Myint of Great Fatherland Construction and Decoration Co., Ltd opened the home.

Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe unveiled the signboard. The building is four storey one storey RC structure constructed at an cost of K 130 million by Great Fatherland Construction and Decoration Co., Ltd.—MNA

Yangon Region Chief Minister U Myint Swe unveils signboard of Chamyae Yeikha Home for Mothers for veteran film articles.—MNA

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Waso cane-ball contest from 15 June to 3 Aug

MANDAY, 16 June—The 84th Waso cane-ball contest will be held in the precinct of Mandalay Mahal Muni Buddha Image from 15 June to 3 August. The contest will be held at the cane-ball gymnasium in the precinct of the Buddha image from 9 am to midnight. Players not only from the countryside but also from Thailand, Japan and the US participate in the contest. On every full moon day of Waso, respects will be paid to veteran cane-ball players of above-75 years, and the players offered gold foils, flowers and oil lights to the image. Not only male players but also female enthusiasts take part in the cane-ball contest.—Bu Oo

Kawkareik Township observes school enrollment day

KAWKAREIK, 16 June—The school enrollment day was observed at Thiri Yadana Hall of Basic Education High School No 1 in Kawkareik Township for 2012-2013 academic year on 9 June morning. Kayin State Minister for Social Affairs U Chit Hlaing, State Minister for Development Affairs U Than Daing, the state education officer and the township education officer explained matters related to the school enrollment day. After that, the Kayin State government and wellwishers donated cash and kind.—Education

Environment Day in the marked the World District in Sagaing Region

Railways of Shwebo Sleeper Factory of Myanma Administration Department, KhinU Township General enrollment day. matters related to the school education officer explained officer and the township State Minister for Social Affairs U Chit Hlaing, 9 June morning. in Kawkareik Township for Education High School No 1 Yadana Hall of Basic Education High School (Branch) in Einchaylayhse of DaikU Township on 7 June. Assistant Director U Zaw Oo of Kyun Kyaw Thar, Township Administrator U Kyaw Kyaw Thar, Township Administrator U Zayar Aye, Head of Township Forest Department U Thein Aung, in-charge of the region forester U Thet Nyan Oo and departmental personnel planted 850 saplings in the factory compound.—Kyemon

DISTRICT NEWS

CASH PROVIDED: A ceremony to provide cash assistance to offering of staff of Dagon Myothit (South) Township General Administration Department was held at its office on 8 June. Township Administrator U Myint Lwin provided K 200,000 to pre-primary, primary, middle and high school students and university students.—San San Kyi

Exercise books, stationary donated to Youth Development House

PYAPON, 16 June—A ceremony to donate exercise books and stationary to students of Youth Development Parishita House for 2012-2013 academic year was held at the house in Kani Village of Pyapon Township in Pyapon District of Ayeyawady Region on 3 June morning. At the ceremony, assistant surgeon Dr Thein Tun Win and family and wellwishers of Pyapon General Hospital (200-bed) presented exercise books and stationary to each student. The donations for the students amounted to K 320,000. Those wellwishers constantly donate K 60,000 for daily lunch of students from the house.—Myanma Alin

Persons in illegal fishing with evidences

WAW, 16 June—With the aim of producing marine resources at water area in Bago Region, preventing fish depletion, ensuring sustainability of fish species and sufficiency for local people, Head of Waw Township Fisheries Department U Tun Hla Aung and staff checked catching of fish at Moeyungyi Lake with the use of battery shock on 10 June. The authorities arrested U Maung Hm, son of U Aung Kyin of Pyinnyinshyi Village of Bago Township, U Myint Sein, son of U Chit Hlie and U Zaw Ht, son of U Ni with evidences. Action was taken against them under section 45 of Fresh Water Fishery Law.—Kyemon

World Environment Day observed in KhinU

KHYIN, 16 June—KhinU Township General Administration Department, Forest Department and Sleeper Factory of Myanma Railways of Shwebo District in Sagaing Region marked the World Environment Day in the compound of Sleeper Factory on 5 June morning. At the ceremony, KhinU Township Pyithu Hluttaw representative U Khin Maung Shwe, Amyotha Hluttaw representative U Aung Kyaw Thar, Township Administrator U Zayar Aye, Head of Township Forest Department U Thein Aung, in-charge of the region forester U Thet Nyan Oo and departmental personnel planted 850 saplings in the factory compound.—Kyemon

Librarian course 18 June-17 July

YANGON, 16 June—The librarian course (second grade) No 1/2012 will be conducted by Myanmar Libraries Foundation from 18 June to 17 July. Those wishing to attend the course may enlist at Myanmar Libraries Foundation, No 85, Thiri Mingala Avenue, Kaba Aye Pagoda Road, Yankin Township, Tel: 660387, 663902 and fax: 663902. MLF

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Hsandawpyae Aryupula free clinic to open modern medical ward

MYANMAR, 16 June—Building of temporary Hsandawpyae Aryupula free clinic is under construction and it has completed by 90 per cent in the precinct of Minkyaung monastery in Myingyan. It will be opened soon. “There will be one medical ward, another one half for those who are waiting for receiving medical treatment, the 30-bed ward, another one half for doctors and one mess hall. Dental and eye units and operation theatre will comprise in the compound. The clinic will be installed modern medical equipment. For running the free clinic, a total of 40 doctors, 20 nurses and 42 staff will give health care to the patients. The doctors in-service will give treatment to the patients on Saturdays and private doctors on Wednesdays,” said Patron of the clinic Amy Si.

Under the leadership of Hsandawpyae Sayadaw Bhaddanta Nandiya, the clinic has been opened since 28 July 2010 to provide free health care services to the local people. Up to now, health care has been given to about 25,000 people regardless of race and religion. The local people of 18 wards and Ywasi, Shaday, Hnaungnak, Nabo-ning, Gaungkwe and Talik in Myingyan Township and Taungtha, Nganar, Nataygi and Yesagyo regions are receiving medical treatment at the clinic.—Kyemon

World Environment Day observed in Nawngkho

NAWNGKHO, 16 June—The tree growing ceremony to mark the World Environment Day was observed at Thabye Ward of Nawngkho Township in Kyun Kyaw District of Shan State (North) on 6 June. Assistant Director U Zaw Oo of Kyanaung District Forest Department, Township Administrator U Aung Kyaw, township departmental officials, teachers and students grow 470 saplings including teak, ironwood, mahogany, star-flower, encyclopa and others.—Township Forest Department

TREES PLANTED: The rainy season tree growing ceremony was held at Basic Education High School (Branch) in Einchaylayhse of DaikU Township on 7 June. Staff Officer U Thein Naing Kyoe of Township Forest Department, Township Administrator U Kyaw Swo Aung, township departmental officials, teachers and students grow 470 saplings including teak, ironwood, mahogany, star-flower, encyclopa and others.—Township Forest Department

CASH PROVIDED: A ceremony to provide cash assistance for schoolchildren of staff of General Administration Department in Kengtung Township was held at its office on 4 June. Township Administrator U Thein Oo presents cash assistance to a student.—GAD

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Winners awarded in contest to mark International Cooperatives Year

PATHEIN, 16 June—In honour of the International Cooperatives Year 2012, the ceremony to award winners in the essay, poem, article, painting and photo contest to mark the year was held at the office of Ayeyawady Region Cooperative Syndicate on 9 June. Deputy Director U Cho Tun of Ayeyawady Region Cooperative Department, BOD members of Cooperative Syndicate, guests and prize winners attended the ceremony. The deputy director delivered an address on the occasion. Later, officials presented prizes to the winners in the contest.—Township Cooperative

DISTRICT NEWS

Tree growing ceremony held in Shwedaung Township

SHWEDAUNG, 16 June—In commemoration of the World Environment Day, Shwedaung Township Forest Department of Pyay District in Bago Region held the tree growing ceremony near Shwedaung Pagoda in Mayamna Village of the township on 5 June morning. Pyithu Hluttaw representative Dr Daw Aye Myint of Bago Region, Region Hluttaw representative U Tin Maung Myint, Township Administrator U Thet Zaw Oo and Head of Township Forest Department U Sithu Lin distributed saplings to social organizations, departmental personnel and village administrators.

Next, members of social organizations, village administrators and local people grew over 1500 saplings. —Township Forest

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED: A ceremony to present cash assistance to students of staff of Kangyidaunt Township General Administration Department was held at Ayeya Thukha Hall of the town on 5 June. Township Administrator U Myint Sein gives cash assistance to 52 students of staff.—Township IPRD

Uniforms provided to staff in Momauk

MOMAUK, 16 June—Momauk Township General Administration Department of Bhamo District in Kachin State presented uniforms to its staff at the meeting hall of the department on 11 June. At the ceremony, Township Administrator U Nyan Hlaing made a speech and then gave K 777,000 for uniforms to 42 staff.

On behalf of the staff, Clerk-1 Daw Win Kyi spoke words of thanks. —Township GAD

School uniforms provided to students

KYAUKPYU, 16 June—A ceremony to present school uniforms to children of vendors by Kyaukpyu Township Development Affairs Committee for 2012-2013 academic year was held at the hall of the Executive Office of the committee on 6 June. Executive Officer Assistant Director U Than Lin Tun and loan committee of Kyaukpyu Township DAC gave one set each of school uniforms to 10 students of vendors.—Myanma Alin

Self-reliant earth road under construction in Yinnabin Township

YINMABIN, 16 June—Hsinde-Yinpaungtaing self-reliant village road is under construction in Yinnabin Township of Monywa District in Sagaing Region. The earthen road will be one mile and four furlongs long and 24 feet wide. On completion, the local people and those from surrounding villages will enjoy fruits of smooth transport. The earth road is being built with contributions of the local people. —Township IPRD

Nattalin marks World Environment Day

NATTALIN, 16 June—In commemoration of the World Environment Day, the tree growing ceremony 2012 was observed in Tinbyinkhway Village-tract of Nattalin Township at 8 am on 6 June.

Staff Officer U Khin Maung Kyaw of Nattalin Township Forest Department and staff, village administrator and party and local people grew 2000 saplings.—Township IPRD

Agricultural loans disbursed in Meiktila

MEIKTILA, 16 June—Myanmar Agricultural Development Bank disburses agricultural loans to farmers for cultivation of monsoon paddy in Meiktila Township.

In 2012 cultivation season, the bank disburses K 50,000 per acre of loan to farmers to grow monsoon paddy. As of 14 June, the bank has disbursed K 13.5 million to 160 farmers of Ayaw Village for cultivation of 50 acres of monsoon paddy and 1103 acres of other crops.

A plan is under way to disburse K 1055 million to farmers from 56 village-tracts for growing 21100 acres of monsoon paddy in 2012.—Myanma Alin

Cash donated to people of Rakhine State

TACHILEK, 16 June—Reporters of Myanma Alin Daily U Aung Phyo Shin and friends donated K 1.104 million for local people who lost houses and property in current situations of Rakhine State to officials through Tachilek Township Administrator U Ye Htoo. —Myanma Alin

CSC ISSUED: Yangon Region Hluttaw representative U Myint Kyi, Head of Yangon West District Immigration and National Registration Department U Yin Itwe, Township Administrator U Zaw Win Htay, Township Education Officer Daw Mya Mya Thein and the headmaster supervise issuance of citizenship scrutiny cards to local people in Moe Pwint-3 Plan at the hall of No 2 Basic Education High School in Bahan Township on 12 June.—Township IPRD

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Sunday, 17 June, 2012

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U Myint Maung of Township DAC presented 76 sets of uniforms to the students of 51 vendors.—Myanma Alin

Shwenandaw express bus line launched

YANGON, 16 June—Shwenandaw express bus line was launched at the new building of the bus line on Mawlamyine Street at Aung Mingala Highway Bus Terminal this afternoon. Chairman of Yangon Region All Private Bus Line Control Committee (Highway) U Nyunt Wai and in charge of the terminal Deputy Head of Revenue Department from YCDC U Nyunt Tun formally opened the bus line.

Shwenandaw express bus line uses Youngman express buses manufactured in Germany to run them along Yangon-Mandalay route and VIP line. The express bus is installed with 41 seats, and ticket for each seat is sold at K 10400. VIP express bus is installed with 33 seats, selling ticket one for K 10400 plus K 6100 for service cost. The VIP bus is facilitated with toilet. Passengers will be served with coffee and snacks. Experienced drivers and bus conductors will give better services to the passengers.

Shwenandaw plans to extend more bus line to PyinUlwelwin, Taunggyi and Ngay Pyi Taw. —Hlaing Maung

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED: A ceremony to present cash assistance to students of staff of Kangyidaunt Township General Administration Department was held at Ayeya Thukha Hall of the town on 5 June. Township Administrator U Myint Sein gives cash assistance to 52 students of staff.—Township IPRD

ASSISTANCE PROVIDED: A ceremony to present cash assistance to students of staff of Kangyidaunt Township General Administration Department was held at Ayeya Thukha Hall of the town on 5 June. Township Administrator U Myint Sein gives cash assistance to 52 students of staff.—Township IPRD
China sends its first woman astronaut into space

Beijing, 16 June — China on Saturday launched its most ambitious space mission to date, sending its first female astronaut into orbit and aiming to achieve the country’s first manned space docking.

Shenzhou-9 — China’s fourth manned space mission — blasted off on schedule at 6:37 am (1037 GMT) from the remote Gobi desert in the nation’s northwest, state television pictures showed.

Chang Wengan, commander-in-chief of China’s manned space programme, said the craft had entered orbit, and declared the launch a “complete success”.

The crew was headed by Jing Haipeng, a veteran astronaut who had gone to space twice already. Liu Wang, who has been in the space programme for 14 years, will be in charge of manual docking manoeuvres.

Meanwhile Liu Yang, 33, who has created a stir in the media and online for becoming China’s first woman to travel to space, will conduct aerospace medical experiments and other space tests.

In a nod to the symbolic significance of Liu’s presence, one of the country’s most senior female leaders, State Councillor Liu Yandong, read a message of congratulation from President Hu Jintao from the launch site.

“I would like to extend warm congratulations and sincere wishes to all those participating,” said Hu, adding the docking operation would mark a “major breakthrough in the country’s manned space programme”.

The mission will last 13 days, during which the crew will perform experiments and the manual space docking — a highly technical procedure that brings two vessels together in high speed orbit.

Successful completion of the rendezvous between the Shenzhou-9 (“Divine Vessel”) and the Tiangong-1 (“Heavenly Palace”) module already in orbit will take China a step closer to setting up its own space station in 2020.

The Asian powerhouse achieved a similar docking in November last year, but that mission was unmanned and the procedure was conducted remotely from Earth.

IMF says Spain needs “ambitious” policy in response to crisis.

WASHINGTON, 16 June — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) said on Friday that Spain needs to carry out comprehensive reforms to calm market and regain growth. The Washington-based global lender said in a statement that the economic outlook for Spain is “very difficult” and market confidence is “weak” despite recent reforms and efforts.

“Recession is deepening and unemployment is 24 percent and rising. Headwinds from household and corporate deleveraging, combined with unavoidable fiscal consolidation, will likely translate into output contractions this year and next,” the IMF said, painting a grim economic picture for the country.

The Fund said continued strong reform momentum and a medium-term vision are needed to restore market confidence and foster jobs and growth. The IMF said the prospective eurozone financial support is an important opportunity for Spain to implement reform strategy. The eurozone leaders announced commitment to a banking union rescue of up to 100 billion euros (125 billion US dollars) for the country’s peripheral countries in 2013.

The IMF warned that the 5.3 percent of GDP deficit target for 2012 would likely be missed, adding that Spain needs to take further actions to stabilize its public debt and bring it down over time.

Spain’s public debt has reached 774.55 billion euros in the first three months of the year, up 5.39 percent from the same period last year, accounting for a record high of 72.1 percent of the country’s GDP, according to its central bank. The IMF said Spain could strengthen its medium-term fiscal plan by reducing tax expenditures and raising tax revenues, especially raising the value-added tax (VAT).

The Spanish government has taken a string of measures to strengthen its banking system but the market was not impressed. In addition, the rating agency Moody’s cut Spain’s sovereign debt by three notches on Wednesday, from A3 to Ba3, which increased doubts on the Spanish economy. The yield on Spanish 10-year bonds soared after the downgrade.

China welcomes WTO ruling on China-US steel dispute

Beijing, 16 June — China welcomes the decision of the World Trade Organization (WTO) to rule in China’s favour over duties China imposed on US steel exports, the Ministry of Commerce said on Saturday.

The WTO panel supported China’s claims and ruled that China’s trade remedy measures complied with WTO rules in some areas, such as in the subsidy calculation methodology and on the disclosure of subsidies concerning government procurement, the ministry said in a statement posted on its website.

China imposed countervailing and anti-dumping duties in April 2010 on US steel products. The punitive duties were imposed after domestic steel makers, including Baosteel Group and Wuhan Iron and Steel Group, complained about imports from the United States.

On 15 Sept, 2010, the US filed the case to WTO and requested a consultation with China. The US requested the establishment of a panel on 11 Feb, 2011, which then was established on 25 March, 2011. The product, grain oriented flat-rolled electrical steel, is mainly used in the manufacturing of transformers, reactors and generators.

Haze returns to Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, 16 June — Haze caused by forest fires in neighbouring Indonesia blanketed parts of Malaysia including Kuala Lumpur, causing air pollution to hit unhealthy levels.

The Star newspaper Saturday said that the haze situation was expected to worsen with the “hot and dry spell in the Riau district of Sumatra” set to peak over the next two weeks. As in previous years, several hotspots in central Sumatra in Indonesia are causing the haze, it said. Haze builds up during the dry season, affecting tourism and contributing to health problems across the region. Indonesia’s government has outlawed land-clearing by fire but weak law enforcement means the ban is largely ignored.

32 pilgrims killed in India bus crash

NEW DELI, 16 June — At least 32 pilgrims were killed and more than 20 injured on Saturday when their bus ploughed off a bridge in western India, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported. The pilgrims were returning from a visit to the popular Shirdi Sai Baba temple, built in honour of an Indian guru, when the accident occurred before dawn in Maharashtra state’s Osmanabad district, police told PTI.

“We had to struggle to rescue survivors and retrieve the victims’ bodies from water,” a police official told CNN-IBN news channel. India has the highest annual road death toll in the world, according to the World Health Organization, with accidents caused by speeding, careless driving and poor road conditions. Twenty-four Hindu pilgrims were killed in May when their bus collided with a truck and fell into a fast-flowing river in northern India. Nearly 15,000 people or 366 a day died on India’s roads in 2010, according to the National Crime Records Bureau.

This file photo shows commuters driving on a busy road in India. At least 32 pilgrims were killed and more than 20 injured on Saturday when their bus ploughed off a bridge in western India, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported.

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Couple taken to court over no-permit pool

An Oregon couple who installed an unauthorized pool in their back yard are facing a $2,000-per-day fine retroactive to November 2009.

Troy and Gina Bundy of West Linn, who have been fighting in court for two years to keep their backyard pool, said the local police department issued them the citations this month and the fines are retroactive to November 2009.

Construction on the pool was completed, The (Portland) Oregonian reported.

The Bundys pleaded not guilty to prohibited use of a water resource area.

The trial is set for August.

Troy Bundy said he did not obtain a permit to build the pool in a protected wetland area because they were told they did not need one. Troy Bundy’s daughter Suri was petrified.

City officials said they want the couple to remove the pool and restore a wetland behind their home.

Officials at an Austrian zoo said two 115-year-old turtles appear to be ending a romance that spanned more than a century.

Helga Happ, head of the zoo in Klagenfurt, said the giant turtles, together since they were young, came to the facility from the Blessed Kingdom of天下.

The turtles are set for August.

Police in Maryland said a python estimated to measure 7 feet was removed from a city roadway.

Residents called a python appeared to be trying to scale a building.

Sun reported Monday.

Officers arrived and found the snake in a nearby bush. It was captured by city Animal Control officers, police said.

Investigators said the python was around 7 feet long.

Turtles unhappy after century together

Zoo in Switzerland 36 years ago, the Austrian Times reported.

“But for no reason that anyone can discover they seem to have fallen out; they just can’t stand each other,” Happ said.

She said the turtles, named Bibi and Poldi, had to be separated when Bibi hit off a chunk of her mate’s shell. “We have staff talking to and trying to engage the two in interacting, and we hope that they might find their harmony again,” she said.

“We were told that it’s very rare that after so many years animals who are a pair will fall apart, but that’s where we are. We hope, though, we can [achieve] a reconciliation.”

Wind extends balloon ride by an hour

An Oregon woman said the hot air balloon ride her husband took her on for her birthday ended up lasting an extra hour and culminated with an emergency landing.

Mr. Sury Suchy of Clackamas said her husband Aaron surprised her with a hot air balloon ride for her 32nd birthday and the trip made headlines when it ended with an emergency landing on a stretch of grass from Interstate 205 near Milwaukie, The (Portland) Oregonian reported.

The pilot, Derek Hanode of Portland Rose Hot Air Balloons, said he made the emergency landing near the highway because his previous two potential landing areas were rendered unusable by strong winds. He said the vehicle and its passengers were never in danger. And he had plenty of fuel to last the extra hour the trip ended up taking.

Suchy said the unusual circumstances did not stop her from enjoying her flight. “It’s very, very, very peaceful. Just amazing. We had the best time,” Suchy said.

“Even with the big ending, it was so cool.”

Russell Brand’s long legs left Suri Cruise terrified

WASHINGTON, 16 June—T om Cruise has revealed that his daughter Suri has been terrified of Russell Brand’s long legs since she was a child.

However, it had nothing to do with his erratic hairstyle or quirky clothes. What freaked the kid out was his long legs, the Daily Star reported. “Suri came to visit me on the set of Miami Vice. The first time she saw Russell she burst out crying on the spot. She was terrified of him,’ ” Suchy said.

“She isn’t used to being around people who are tall. I mean the man has freakishly long limbs!”

However the Hollywood hotspot revealed that his six-year-old daughter now loves Russell because he made her laugh by “pulling faces and being funny.”

‘Spider-Man’ musical marks year on B’way

New York, 16 June—“Spider-Man: Turn Off The Dark,” a musical starring Reeve Carney as the web-slinging superhero, celebrated its one-year anniversary on Broadway on Thursday.

“Reaching this milestone is made so much sweeter by the knowledge that we’ll be marking the occasion alongside the show’s diehard fans,” producers Michael Cohl and Jeremiah Harris said in a joint statement. “Without such enthusiasm for the production, there is no way we’d be here celebrating.”

The production has been seen by more than 1 million audience members from around the world in the past year. The $70 million show began preview performances on 28 Nov, 2010. It later closed for three weeks so its creative team could work out technical bugs and story issues. It officially opened last June and has been a hot ticket ever since.

‘Thrones’ creators apologize for putting fake headset on a pike

LOS ANGELES, 16 June—The creators of “Game of Thrones” say they meant no offense when they placed on a stake what looks like the head of former US President George W Bush.

The popular fantasy series is set in medieval times on another planet and follows several clans through a bloody struggle for ultimate power. Season 1 of the show ended last year with numerous beheadings and a new king.

David Benioff and DB Weiss confirmed on the commentary for the DVD release of Season 1 that the prosthetic head bearing the likeness of Bush was among the noggins stuck on stakes and lining a castle wall.

Tripplehorn joins ‘Criminal Minds’

LOS ANGELES, 16 June—US actress Jeanne Tripplehorn will join the cast of ‘Criminal Minds’ this fall, CBS announced Thursday. “We’re thrilled to have Jeanne Tripplehorn join our team as a profiler,” Executive Producer Erica Messer said in a statement.

Her character will be introduced in the premiere. It’s an exciting way to start Season 8.”

Lady Gaga’s first fragrance will be black

NEW YORK, 16 June—US pop star Lady Gaga said on Thursday her first fragrance, “Lady Gaga Fame,” will be black and released in September.

The perfume is being created through the singer’s own Haus Laboratories in association with Coty. Cory said the fragrance will be the first black Eau de Parfum that sprays clear and becomes invisible once airborne.

“The scent is built around three main accords: dark, sensual and light,” the company said. “The dark accord was inspired by Belladonna, the deadly nightshade possessed by haunted beauties since the 18th century. The sweet accord of opulence, a fusion of dripping honey, saffron and apricot nectar. And lastly, the light accord whispers level out the whole fragrance and giving ‘Lady Gaga Fame’ its signature as a scent.”

Lady Gaga and New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg chat before pushing the button that will start the descent of the New Year’s Eve crystal ball and ring in 2012 in Times Square on 1 January, 2012, in New York City.

Lady Gaga’s “Fanfare of the 2009 JUNO Music Awards on Granville Street in Vancouver, British Columbia.”

Rihanna’s “Where Have You Been” at No 8, Katy Perry’s “Wide Awake” at No 9 and Justin Bieber’s “Boyfriend” at No 10.—Internet

Singer Carly Rae Jepsen smiles at the JUNO Fanfare of the 2009 JUNO Music Awards on Granville Street in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Tripplehorn co-starred with Animal in the cable TV series “Big Love” for five seasons. She also stared in the TV movie “Grey Gardens,” as well as the films “Sliding Doors,” “Mickey Blue Eyes,” “Basic Instinct” and “The Firm.”—Internet

‘Call Me Maybe’ tops the US record chart

LOS ANGELES, 16 June—“Call Me Maybe” is No 1 on the US record chart, Billboard.com reported on Thursday.

“Coming in at No 2 is Gotye’s “Somebody That I Used to Know” featuring Kimbra, followed by Maroon 5’s “Payphone” featuring Wiz Khalifa at No 3,” “We Are Young” featuring Janelle Monae at No 4 and One Direction’s “What Makes You Beautiful” at No 5. “Gangsta” by Nicki Minaj’s “Starships” at No 6, Flo Rida’s “Wild Ones” featuring Sia at No 7, “The New Light of Myanamar” Sunday, 17 June, 2012 13
Handle with care as Dutch meet Portugal

KIEV, 16 June — Portugal and the Netherlands shared 16 yellow cards and four reds in their last competitive match and there are plenty more reasons that make their decisive Euro 2012 Group B match on Sunday a powder keg. Two teams with a penchant for theatrics, self-styled hard men like Pepe and Nigel de Jong and a brooding Cristiano Ronaldo add up to a pot mix for Italian referee Nicola Rizzoli. With seven Dutch survivors in the squad from the team who lost 1-0 to Portugal at the 2006 World Cup, there could be lingering resentment from a match that broke all the wrong records.

There have also been warning signs of another Dutch implosion with winger Arjen Robben stomping off the field and immediately removing his shirt when substituted in the 2-1 defeat by Germany. Both teams still have a chance of qualifying although it is a long shot for the Dutch, who are pointless after demoralizing losses to Denmark and Germany.

England eliminates Sweden from Euros with 3-2 win

Winner as England rallied for an entertaining 3-2 win over Sweden on Friday. The result eliminated Sweden from the European Championship and put England on course for the quarterfinals. The English only need a draw against co-host Ukraine in the final group game to advance.

“Just to make my first appearance in such a high profile arena it just means so much to me,” Walcott said. “It’s been a long time waiting for me to show.” Walcott was overlooked for his younger Arsenal teammate Alex Oxlade Chamberlain in England’s opening game of the tournament, only coming on in injury time, and again began on the bench on Friday in favour of James Milner and Ashley Young. But after England wasted a halftime lead to fall behind 2-1 against a Sweden team desperate for a victory, coach Roy Hodgson turned to Walcott in the 61st minute.

Germany’s Podolski must improve in attack

“In the first two games my job was to secure the back. It was a tactical order by the coach which I fulfilled,” Germany, with six points after wins over Portugal and the Netherlands, need at least one point to guarantee their progression and Germany assistant coach Hansi Flick said the 27-year-old Podolski needed to improve in attack.

“Europe has only room for the best teams and we have played so far on very exciting matches but we need to put the emphasis on the defense,” Flick declined to reveal whether Podolski’s defensive work in the last two games had been vital for the team’s success. “We obviously want to leave our mark on the offense as well but the teams we have played so far were very attacking teams and we had to put the emphasis on the defense,” Flick declined to reveal whether Podolski’s weak showing in attack at the tournament would cost him his place in the team.

Swansea name Laudrup as manager

Former Barcelona and Real Madrid star signs a two-year deal at the Liberty Stadium

LONDON, 16 June — Swansea City have appointed former Barcelona and Real Madrid playmaker Michael Laudrup as their new manager on a two-year contract. He succeeds Brendan Rodgers, who left the club to join Liverpool earlier this month, and takes the role on his 48th birthday. “I’ve spoken to the chairman and I’m very pleased to sign for Swansea City,” Laudrup told the club’s official website. “It’s going to be a new experience for me and I’m really looking forward to it.”

“Our overall aim is to build on our first season in the Premier League, but we also fully understand the need to adapt our approach as we go along to remain competitive season after season.”

Woods in the hunt at US Open

Tiger Woods of the US reacts after hitting from the edge of a bunker on the 16th green during the second round of the 2012 US Open golf tournament on the Lake Course at the Olympic Club in San Francisco, California on 15 June, 2012. — Reuters

China prepares to host Asian Beach Games

HAIYANG, 16 June — As London prepares to welcome the world’s top athletes at the Olympics, a little-known Chinese seaside town is gearing up to host the champions of some rather more obscure sports at the Asian Beach Games. "The 3rd Asian Beach Games torches on the final leg of the torch relay in Haiyang on 14 June. The little-known Chinese seaside town is gearing up to host the champions of some rather more obscure sports at the Asian Beach Games.INTERNET

Swimming, diving, sailing and beach volleyball are the highlights of the third Asian Beach Games set to be held in the Chinese seaside town of Haiyang on the coast of Zhejiang province from Saturday to July 2.

Chinese officials carry the 3rd Asian Beach Games torches on the final leg of the torch relay in Haiyang on 14 June. The little-known Chinese seaside town is gearing up to host the champions of some rather more obscure sports at the Asian Beach Games. — Internet

Haiyang, 16 June — As London prepares to welcome the world’s top athletes at the Olympics, a little-known Chinese seaside town is gearing up to host the champions of some rather more obscure sports at the Asian Beach Games. More than 2,000 athletes will descend on Haiyang on China’s east coast on Saturday to compete in sports such as beach sepak takraw — a cross between volleyball and soccer — and beach kabaddi, a highly physical mix of tag and wrestling. Among the more mainstream sports at the seven-day tournament, held every two years, are sailing and beach volleyball, with top players due in Haiyang ahead of the Olympic showdown on London’s Horse Guards Parade this summer.

But the crossover with the Games ends there. Thai athletes will hit the beach to defend their title in sepaktakraw, also known as “kick volleyball” — a highly energetic game where players use their feet, heads and chest to throw a rattan ball over the net. Thailand remains the powerhouse of the sport, said Abdul Halim Bin Kader, head of the International Sepaktakraw Federation. The Southeast Asian nation is the reigning Asian Beach Games champion for both the mens’ and womens’ teams. India, meanwhile, will be looking to keep its gold medal in beach kabaddi — a game that combines the characteristics of wrestling and rugby. — Internet

Swimming, diving, sailing and beach volleyball are the highlights of the third Asian Beach Games set to be held in the Chinese seaside town of Haiyang on the coast of Zhejiang province from Saturday to July 2. The former world number one has not won a major in four years but the omen are good this time. Of the nine previous times Woods has led a major at the halfway stage, he has gone on to win eight. "Being patient is certainly something that we have to do in major championships and I think I’ve done a pretty good job of that over the years," said the 14-times major winner. "I won my fair share, and I understand how to do it.”

It was not an easy day for Woods. The 36-year-old saw his progress stall around the turn, making three successive bogeys on the front nine, and had to scramble hard as the Pacific Ocean winds picked up in the afternoon. But he has plotted his way to a one-over-par 72 and will start Sunday with a two-under-par 69 and Toms, the 2001 PGA Championship winner, matched Woods with a 70 as the sun started to set in Northern California. — Reuters

English forward Danny Welbeck jumps to control the ball during their Euro 2012 soccer match against Sweden at the Olympic Stadium in Kiev, May 14. REUTERS

Michael Laudrup is regarded as one of the finest players to have come out of Europe. — Internet

China prepares to host Asian Beach Games

Tiger Woods of the US reacts after hitting from the edge of a bunker on the 16th green during the second round of the 2012 US Open golf tournament on the Lake Course at the Olympic Club in San Francisco, California on 15 June, 2012. — Reuters

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Focus Myanmar TV Programme

MYANMAR INTERNATIONAL

(17-6-12 09:30 am — 18-6-12 09:30 am) MST

* News
* Measuring Scenes or Image of Japan
* News
* Tray & Srieve; Essential for Myanmar
* News
* Music Gallery
* News
* My Journey on a bike & boat
* News
* ASEAN PEOPLE’S VOICE
* News
* Myanmar Movies
* Impact “Mawkin Utterance”
* News
* Artist who can create colourful images
* News
* Connecting to the World Through TEIN3
* Myanmar Movie
* “Happy Birthday”

MYANMAR TV

(17-6-2012) (Sunday)

1. Parrita By Hilly Region Missionary Sryadaw
7:25 am
2. To Be Healthy Exercise
7:50 am
3. Nice and Sweet Song
8:15 am
4. (3) Phyar Mingulars
11:10 am
5. Musical Programme
12:30 pm
6. How It’s works
12:50 pm
7. Myanmar Movie
4:20 pm
8. Dance of National Races
4:45 pm
9. University of Distance Education (TVLectures) - Second Year (English)
5:10 pm
10. Documentary
5:20 pm
11. Sing & Enjoy
6:20 pm
12. Cartoon Series
8:00 pm
13. News
11:00 pm
14. Cartoon Series
12:00 am
15. TV Drama Series
12:50 am
16. New Melody
6:00 am

Weather forecast for 17th June, 2012

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25 dead in Pakistan car bomb blast

ISLAMABAD, 16 June — A car bomb ripped through a market area in a northwest Pakistan tribal town near the Afghan border on Saturday, killing 25 people including three children, officials said. “The death toll is 25,” from the blast in the main bazaar of Landi Kotal in Khyber tribal district, local administration chief Mutahir Zeb told AFP, adding more than 50 people were injured, some of them seriously. Hospital officials confirmed the toll.

Zeb said there were 18 bodies at the Landi Kotal hospital while seven victims had died while being taken for treatment in Peshawar, the main town in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

The dead included three children aged nine, 10 and 12, he said. Arshad Khan, a local administration official, said the bomb was packed in a taxi he was sitting in when the blast rocked the whole area. “There was fire in several shops,” he said.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility but Islamist militants have carried out several attacks in the area since July 2007, a Taliban-led insurgency concentrated in the northest has fought Pakistan’s US-allied government.

Ashad Khan, a local administration official, said the blast appeared to be aimed at members of the pro-government Zakha Khel tribe, who oppose a local warlord, Mangal Bagh.

Baghdad bomb targets Shi’ite pilgrims, nine killed

BAGHDAD, 16 June—At least nine people were killed and 31 wounded on Saturday when a car bomb exploded in Baghdad where thousands of Shi’ite pilgrims had gathered to mark a major religious festival, police said.

The bomb was packed in a taxi abandoned on a route used by pilgrims visiting a Baghdad shrine to commemorate the anniversary of the death of Shi’ite imam Moussa al-Kadhim, a great-grandson of Prophet Mohammad, authorities said. It was the third attack targeting Shi’ite pilgrims this week and follows a wave of bombings on Wednesday in Baghdad and across Iraq that killed 70 people in the worst single day of violence since US troops left the country in December.

Recent attacks on Shi’ite targets are reviving fears Iraq risks slipping back into broad sectarian violence, especially with Shi’ite, Sunni and ethnic Kurdish parties that make up its fragile government feuding over how they share power. — Reuters

Irishman faces Chavez Jnr for middleweight title

El PASO (TEXAS), 16 June—Irish southpaw Andy Lee (3-1) will fight for a world title for the first time in his career on Saturday when he faces unbeaten World Boxing Council middleweight champion Julio Cesar Chavez Jr.

Irishman Andy Lee (R), seen here in 2006, will fight for a world title for the first time in his career on Saturday when he faces unbeaten World Boxing Council middleweight champion Julio Cesar Chavez Jr.

Rafael Nadal of Spain leaves the field after his match against Philipp Kohlschreiber of Germany at the Halle Open ATP tennis tournament in Halle on 15 June, 2012.— Reuters

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Outstanding students of 2012 academic year matriculation examination awarded in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area

Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann delivering an address at the meeting. — MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 16 June—Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Thura U Shwe Mann addressed the prize presentation to outstanding students who matriculated with flying colours and teachers who managed to turn out such students at Zeyathiri Township General Administration Department in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area this noon.

Present on the occasion were wife of the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker Daw Khin Lay Thet, Union Minister at the President Office Nay Pyi Taw Council Chairman U Thein Nyunt, Union Minister for Education Dr Mya Aye, Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Maung Maung Aye, Deputy ministers, members of Nay Pyi Taw Council, senior military officers, departmental heads, teachers, parents and school boards of trustees, students and invited guests.

Speaking on the occasion, the Pyithu Hluttaw Speaker underscored the crucial role of a good education system in national development, calling for the harmonious cooperation of students, parents and teachers for uplift of moral standard, discipline observance and educational standard in compliance with the motto of the Ministry of Education. He noted the important role of school board of trustees in further implementing education promotion programmes at present, adding that the objectives of the Education Ministry could be met only through the tireless efforts of students, parents, teachers and members of school boards of trustees.

Next, the Union Minister at the President Office suggested the measures of basic education schools in Nay Pyi Taw Council Area for education sector development and promotion of educational standard and higher exam pass rate.

The Union Education Minister in his speech said the new government had introduced compulsory education system at primary level while throwing itself to education promotion works. It had also increased education budget while increasingly encouraging outstanding students shaping their quality. In addition, it was making plans for the needy to be able keep on pursuing education.

Next, the Union Minister at the President Office awarded a six-distinction winner and three five-distinction winners, the Union Education Minister four-distinction winners.

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Norms of print media law being drafted was no lower than that of international ones and was not intended for deterring or forbidding print media or press freedom but for emergence of dignified and qualified genuine Fourth Estate

YANGON, 16 June—Union Minister for Information and for Culture U Kyaw Hsan delivered an address at the First Conference of Myanmar Writers Association at the University of Nursing (Yangon) today.

It was attended by Yangon region ministers, departmental heads, patrons of the conference and members of the sub-committee for organizing Myanmar Writers Association, writers, representatives from township writers associations and responsible personnel from media.

Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister U Kyaw Hsan said that the first conference of Myanmar Writers Association is the historic event in the literary world as the decision to reconstitute literary associations in conformity with the democratic society made at the conference of the Myanmar Writers and Journalists Association on 24 March, 2012, at same venue had shape. In the quest of the people for a democratic nation with the Three Estates: the legislation, the judiciary and the executive pillars, the government has made reforms, he said. Similarly, the new constitution has granted rights for forming non-governmental organizations and the people who have same motives organized and formed non-governmental organizations, he said.

He also acknowledged the efforts of the committee for forming Myanmar Writers Association for drafting the constitution and principles of the association within a short time. The union minister expressed his delight saying that the first conference of the Myanmar Writers Association is held to elect personnel who lead the association.

He hoped that the association can work in the interests of the country and the people in the future.

Writers took their duties during the independence struggle using their pens as weapons and they were considered as good and dutiful citizens of the country, he added. During some periods after gaining the independence, there happened splits caused by isms, personality cult and many concepts in the literary world. It is known to all that a society which is rife with such kind of isms and extreme views can not achieve success and can collapse some days, he said. Therefore, during such periods, the Fourth Estate could not serve as a strong pillar which is based on the nationalistic spirit for the country, he said.

The union minister also stressed the importance of the fourth estate of the country to stand as a pillar which can serve in the

Members of Armed Forces, Police Force, Red Cross Society, Fire Brigade clear debris of Setyonsu Market fire

NAY PYI TAW, 16 June—A total of 40 red cross members from Yangon Region and 200 fire brigade members from Magway, Sagaing, Mandalay, Ayeyawady, Bago and Yangon regions arrived Sittway in Rakhine State today to clear the debris from the recent incidents in some townships of Rakhine State and assist in health care and reconstruction works.

Deputy Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement U Phone Swe and senior military officers from local battalions, personnel of Fire Services Department and the Red Cross Society and departmental officials welcomed them.

Over 60 members of the Armed Forces, Police Battalion, the Red Cross and the Fire Brigade cleared the debris from the Setyonsu Market fire in Sittway, encouraged by Commander of Western Command Brig-Gen Ko Ko Naing, State Minister for Security and Border Affairs Col Hein Lin, Chairman of Rescue and Salvage Committee State Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Breeding U Kyaw Thein and personnel.

The commander visited the accommodation of the Red Cross and Fire Brigade members from Yangon and attended to the needs. Local people presented the service members and Red Cross and Fire Brigade members with soft drink and drinking water.— MNA

Rural people in Rakhine State donated cash, household goods

YANGON, 16 June—A ceremony to supply cash and household goods to civilians in Rakhine State, who lost their properties in riots, was held at Maykha Hall of the Fire Brigade (Headquarters) under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement in Mayagone Township, here, this morning.

On the occasion, U Myo Aung and Daw Khin Yi Mon of Sun Myanmar Group Co donated K 1 million, Director U Khin Maung Win of Shwe Myanmar Garment Factory, clothes worth K 0.65 million, Ko Kaung Myat Thu and Ma Yadana Soe Moe (Immyaungyin Road), K 0.5 million, U Tun Kyi and Daw Ni Ni Thun, K 0.3 million, U Tin Sein and Daw Chaw Su (Daungyinpyan Industrial Enterprise), K 0.1 million, Director-General U Khin Maung Htay (Redd) of Myanma Radio and Television and Daw Nwe Nwe, K 0.1 million, U San Win and Daw Mya Moe Thant (Kabalarone Thingan House), K 0.1 million and pillows, U Khin Maung Win and Daw Kyi Kyi Win, K 0.05 million, Daw Nan Khin Latt.

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